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Congress splits again

New Delhi, kJan 2 - India's opposition CJongress Party yesterday split in two when a convention supporting former prime minister Indira Gandhi declared itself the rual Congress Party and elected her as its fpresident.

Official Congress president Kasu Brahmananda Reddi, in a swift and sharp reaction, said the election was unconstitutional and illegal.

The regular leadership of the party, which includes almost all the most priminent of Mrs. Gandhi's former Cabinet ministers, denounced the move as tragic, and threatened her and her followers with expulsion.

After an emergency meeting last night, the party's executive committee declared: "The Congress working committee notes with deep regret that Indirn Gandhi and her followers have carried out their long-standing intention of disrupting the unity of the Coongress Party and setting up a new party."

The committee also said that "dthe preposterous claim that the recent convention represents the real Congress will not stand scrutiny, and wer are sure will be totally rejected by the rank and file of the party."

Yesterday's moves were the climax of a struggle raging in the former ruling party for months over Mrs. Gandhi's efforts to recapture control. She had headed it with almost total control from the last split in 1969 until she lost general elections last March.

What the development amounted to was the formation by Mrs. Gandhi of a third political party - a rival to both the Codngress regulars and the Janata PFarty Government of Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

The break yesterday came on the second day of a convention organized here by Mrs. Gandhi's faction and branded as an anti-party manoeuvre dby the official leadership.

The convention adopted a resolution authorizing Mrs. Gandhi to organize her party at all levels in consultation with other leading supporters, Samachar news agency reported.

Congress president Reddi told Samachar that the official leader enjoyed the support of an overwhelming majority of Congress fmembers and of national and state committees.

Mr. Reddi said he was sure party workers and leaders would stand by the constitutionally elected Codngress body.

The latest break was another milestone in the decline of the 92-year-old Congress Party, which was first an independence movement that inspired enemies of colonialism all over the world, and then a political monolith that never suffered a significant defeat before the parliamentary elections last Mar-ch.

The current crisis stem directly from Mrs. Gandhi election defeat last kMarch. She slipped briefly out of the political limelight followin the loss, which ended 21 months of repressive emergenc rule.

Mrs. Gandhi began her comeback several months ago, and differences over her role plunged the demoralized party into a bitter factional struggle.

It came to a kdhead with Mrs. Gandhi's resignation from the working committee, the party's top policy-making body, last month. This was followed by the call for a rebel convention and the suspension of one of her leading supporters, Devraj Urs.

Last week, six more of her top supporters resigned from the working committee to protest against the suspension of Mr. Urs.

The next battle with the Congress regulars is expected to centre on the preparation of lists of candidates for the assembly elections to be held soon in several southern states of India, with both factions claiming the Congress Party label.

Carter's whisper

New Delhi - Jan. 2 - U.S. President Jimmy Carter unaware his voice was being taped by a radio technician, told Secretary of State Cyrus Vance yesterday that a "cold and very blunt" letter should be sent to Indian leaders as a result of a sharp disagreement over nuclear safeguards.

Desai meets Carter

New Delhi - Jan. 3 - Tens of thousands of cheering Indians welcomed President Jimmy Carter to New Delhi yesterday and Indian President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy said he hoped the visit would open a new chapter in relations between his country and the United States.

Mr. Carter and his wife arrived here from Iran, where they had spent New Year's Eve with the Shah of Iran.

Soon after arriving in India, Mr. Carter held a 45-minute meeting with Prime Minister Morarji Desai. They are scheduled to meet again today.

Mr. Carter told more than 50,000 people gathered at a cricket field for his arrival that the United States and India are linked by common moral and democratic values. Mr. Desai described Mr. Carterf as "a great humanist, a man of ideals."

Many of the Indians who heard Mr. Carter speak had no idea who he was. "I have no money and this was a free show, so I came here," said Prabhat Singh, a spectator who said it was his day off. All the speeches at the reception were in Hindi, except for Mr. Carter's, which was translated by an interpreter.

On the flight from Iran to India, a senior American official said the jPresident wanted to discuss with Mr. Desai such issues as human rights, nuclear co-operation, Indian Ocean security and the problems of relations between rich and poor jcountries.

The 81 year-old Mr. Desai, who defeated former prime minister Indira Gandhi in general elections last March, has indicated he hopes to improve relations with the United States, which cooled during Mrs. Gandhi's period in office.

Mr. Carter described his reception in India as f"beautiful." He saw but did not comment on a small demonstration by students protesting alleged human rights violations in Chinese-controlled Tibet.

In welcoming remarks at the airport, Mr. Desai said he hoped Mr. Carterf's visit would "become a catalyst for clear rapport and understanding between the two countries."

Mr. Carter replied: "I know that I will feel at home here because of the things that the United States and India have in common - the importance we attach to basic moral values."

Thousands lined dthe 10-mile motorcade route as Mr Carter stood in his U.S.-made, open limousine and waved. White-helmeted police and club-wielding soldiers guarded the motorcade route and held back the crowds, six deep at some points.

Thirty-seven small brass bands played as Mr. Carter's limousine pulled up at Rashtrapati Bhavan, a 340-room palace built by the British 50 years ago as home for the viceroy. It is the Carters' residence for their two nights in India.

(AP)

Jumbo crash kills 213

Bombay, Jan. 2 - An Air India jumbo jet flying to the Middle East with 213 people aboard exploded and crashed into the Arabian Sea last night shortly after taking off from Bombay. By dawn today, no survivors had been found.

Residents of the western Bombay suburb of Bandra said they saw the Boeing 747 split into two after an explosion and plunge into the sea. A navy officer also said he saw from his ship "the explosion and the aircraft disintegrating."

An Air India spokesman said the wreckage of the airliner was found two miles offshore. Hours after the c rash, three bodies washed ashore near Bandra. Pieces of wreckage, life jackets and clothing were found more thjan two miles at sea, officials said.

Air India officials in Bombay said the plane carried 190 passengers and 23 crew members.

If all aboard perished, the crash would be India's worst air disaster. Most of the passengers were believed to be Indians.

The crash off Bombay, in western India, occurred as President Jimmy Carter was paying a state visit in New Delhi, 800 miles to the north.

The plane, bound for the Persian Gulf state of Dubai, took off from Bombay's Santa Cruz International Airport about an hour behind schedule.

Airport officials said radio contact was lost immediately after take-off and the aircraft was tracked on radar screens for only 4½ miles.

A naval officer told police he saw the plane bank to the left and crash into the sea at an angle of about 45 degrees. (Reuter)

Bombay, Jan. 3 - An aviation official said yesterday he was "very suspicious" about the cause of Sunday's disaster in which an Air India jumbo jet bound for the Middle East with 213 people aboard exploded in mid-air and plunged into the sea.

"Modern planes do not fall out of the sky just like that. The whole thing is very suspicious. But we cannot speculate now and we do not know whether it was sabotage or some other cause," the official said.

At least 17 bodies were recovered from the sea and some parts of the shattered Boeing 747 located yesterday, but an Indian navy officer said: "We are still looking for the main body of the plane."

The Ddubai-bound plane took off from Bombay's Santa Cruz International Airport Sunday night after a 12-hour delay due to engine trouble, and was lost by radar trac kers minutes later. Witnesses said they heard an explosion and then saw a ball of fire falling from the sky.

It was the third worst disaster in aviation history and India's worst crash.

Thirty-seven women, two infants and 14 children were among the passengers. There were 179 Indians, two Americans and nine Arab passengers and 23 crew members.

An official inquiry into the accident has started and officials have expressed bewilderment as to why the plane should suddenly explode.

A fisherman who saw the crash told reporters: "It went off like a bomb and then a huge fire engulfed it and it dived into the sea." Another witness spoke o' "a thunderous explosion."

Warrant against Mrs.Gandhi

By George Mathew

New Delhi: A warrant would be issued to bring Mrs. Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India, before the Shah Commission which is currently inquiring into the excesses of emergency, Home Minister, Charan Singh, indicated.

Mrs. Gandhi refused to appear before the Commission twice. Before the Commission resumed its hearing on December 5 after a week's break, a second request was sent to Mrs. Gandhi to appear before it to assist it in its examination of the circumstances leading to the promulgation of emergency. Earlier she boycotted the commission on Nov. 21 and sent a statement through her counsel questioning the procedure of the Commission.

In reply to the second call by the Commission, Mrs. Gandhi once again refused to appear before it and also challenged its jurisdiction to examine the question of promulgation of emergency in June 1975.

In her 7 page reply the former Prime Minister said that the proclamation of emergency by the President was a constitutional step. It was approved by the Cabinet and duly ratified by both Houses of Parliament. After ratification, the proclamation which was political in character became an Act of Parliament.

"No authority in this country, not excluding any commission appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, can sit in judgment over such an Act of Parliament. For any political decision, the government under our Constitution is answerable only to Parliament," she maintained.

Mrs. Gandhi said that if the Commission arrogates to itself the power to determine that the declaration of emergency was an excess, it will not only be stultifying the constitutional scheme but also establishing a precedent which will make serious inroads into parliamentary supremacy with disastrous consequences to parliamentary freedom. Even the terms of reference of the commission do not warrant such an inquiry.

She has questioned the propriety of the commission's inquiry as well as the discussions the commission has with the Prime Minister and the Home Minister and added: "I respectfully submit that even though this commission has been appointed by the Central government, it is an independent statutory authority and is discharging quasi-judicial functions."

In conclusion she said: "No useful purpose will be served by my participation in the present proceedings and I regret my inability to appear before this Honorable commission."

At a public meeting in New Delhi Mrs. Gandhi said that all sins were being heaped on her and the list grew bigger every day. She was not bothered about that. She thought the country was bigger than any individual.

She said: "My biggest sin is that I see democracy and freedom in a light different from the way the media and some others are seeing today. The basic questions to be asked are: Democracy for whom? Freedom for what? Is it freedom for the masses to starve?

BANSI LAL, DHAWAN ALSO ABSTAIN

Marching close to the footsteps of Mrs. Gandhi, two members of her emergency caucus — Bansi Lal and R.K. Dhawan - also abstained from the Commission when it resumed hearing on December 5.

In their communication to the Commission, Bansi Lal, former Defence Minister, and Mr. Dhawan, former additional Private Secretary of Mrs. Gandhi, said that they did not agree with the procedure adopted by it and felt that no useful purpose would be served by their appearance at this state.

Incidently, Mr. Dhawan had appeared before the Commission a number of times earlier without raising any such question.

This confrontation with the Commission would force the issue of warrants against them to appear before it for which it has powers.

Commenting sharply on their stand, Home Minister Charan Singh said that democracy meant rule of law and it would not be relented, however, big a person might be. The country did not exist for any single individual.

BEGUM ABIDA AHMED

Significant among those who would depose before the Commission during its current sitting is Begum Abida Ahmed, widow of the late President Fakhurddin Ali Ahmed.

The circumstances of Mr. Ahmed's sudden demise and his confrontation with the former Prime Minister regarding the promulgation of emergency were rumours in suspicion. The External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpeyee has said recently that it was still a mystery if the late President had consented to the promulgation of emergency or not. Efforts are being made to locate the personal diary of Mr. Ahmed to ascertain facts.

Some of the new faces that will be seen in the witness stand during the current sitting of the Commission are : Jagjivan Ram, Defence Minister, Brahmananda Reddi, Congress President (formerly Home Minister), S.S. Ray, former Chief Minister of West Bengal, H.N. Bahuguna, Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals (former Chief Minister of U.P.) Vengal Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Devraj Urs, Chief Minister of Karnataka.

I.K. Gujral, former Minister for Information and Broadcasting and at present India's Ambassador in the Soviet Union, has also been asked to appear before the Commission. Mr. Gujral was suddenly dropped from Mrs. Gandhi's cabinet and V.C. Shukla was inducted in his place at the instance of Sanjay Gandhi.

INTERIM REPORT

The Shah Commission is expected to submit its interim report by the end of December.

Should the Commission come to the conclusion that there was a prima facie case against Mrs. Gandhi, the government would prosecute her.

Sanjay in the witness box

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: Sanjay Gandhi denied before the Jagannohan Reddy Commission that he used any political influence to further the business of Maruti Ltd., of which he was the managing director until January 1977.

The police made elaborate security arrangements at the premises of the Commission expecting a large crowd. But there was hardly any crowd to warrant such arrangements. People seem to have lost interest in him. When he was nearer to the seat of power, particularly during the emergency, he used to draw large crowd wherever he went and the entire official machinery used to be placed at his disposal.

Mr. Reddy who constitutes the one-man Commission is inquiring into the charges of corruption against Bansilal, former Defence Minister.

Sporting his usual kurta, pyjama and shawl, Mr. Gandhi entered the witness box and conducted himself with confidence throughout the three and a half hours of deposition before the Commission.

He said he never had more than formal relationship with Mr. Lal and the testimony by many witnesses before the Commission was politically motivated and designed to denigrate him. "I would have been sitting in jail if I had got any order even at Rs. 5 more than the rates offered by others who made tenders," he said. He denied the charge that Maruti Ltd. was given higher rates of payment for building bus bodies for Haryana State Transport.

Mr. Gandhi said that he could produce documentary evidence to prove that many witnesses who had deposed before the commission had made false allegation against him.

He said the fact was that Maruti Ltd., was given the lowest number of body-building orders despite the lowest rates offered by it. His main complaint was that it placed more orders with other firms at higher prices than those offered by his firm for the same work. Maruti Ltd., had objected to these "grossly unreasonable, unjustifiable and discriminatory acts of the Haryana government but nobody seems to have bothered about it."

He sought the permission of the Commission to cross-examine those witnesses who had earlier deposed against him and the Commission granted the request. At times Mr. Gandhi was angry and Mr. Reddy did not approve some of the remarks he made.

During cross-examination Mr. Gandhi admitted that at a later stage, his firm got 270 out of 280 orders given by the Haryana government and the discrimination ended. But this happened because of Maruti's competence and its lowest tender.

Asked what business he was engaged in at present, Mr. Gandhi said that he did some minor business besides replying to notices from various government departments, commissions and courts.

BANSI LAL INDICTED

The Commission made a strong indictment of Bansi Lal for being responsible for the demolition of shops, houses, temples, samadhis and properties of Manohar Lal in Bhiwani.

In its interim report laid on the table of the Lok Sabha, the Commission described the demolition as "a sad story of the fiendish manner in which a citizen has been pursued, persecuted and humiliated" and "his properties were demolished and razed to the ground."

Sanjay Gandhi arriving at the Reddy Commission.

The Commission has come to the conclusion that the demolition was done at the instance of Mr. Bansi Lal and not the Bhiwani Improvement Trust.

Mr. Bansi Lal ordered the demolition because he was frustrated at not being able to acquire the properties at throwaway prices for his son, Mr. Surinder Singh and his brother, Raghubir Singh, who wanted to build a five-star tourist hotel and an airconditioned cinema at the site.

Mr. Bansi Lal abused his official position and, with vindictiveness, malice and cussedness, had the properties demolished. Even a telegram addressed to the President of India and the Prime Minister was not allowed to be transmitted on the ground that it would create a sensation.

About the allegation that Mr. Bansi Lal acquired lands which were ultimately sold to his daughters, the commission has come to the conclusion that the lands were purchased at a throwaway price.

"There is no escape from the conclusion that all this was done at the instance of Mr. Bansi Lal and his son, Mr. Surinder Singh, who actively participated in giving effect to the objective of purchasing these lands cheaply and thereby conferring unlawful gain on Mr. Bansi Lal's daughters," the Commission observed.

Joint venture in Egypt

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (Samachar) Tripartite working group of electronic experts from Egypt, India and Yugoslavia have recommended the setting up of a joint venture project in Egypt by the three partners for the assembly of electronic business and accounting machines using micro processors.

Meeting in Cairo from Dec. 5th to 8th the group also recommended the establishment of a TV glass shells plant in India and the export of black and white TV picture tubes produced in Egypt to Yugoslavia and India. India will assist Egypt in the production of certain sub assemblies in the TV field.

Pakistani gesture

New Delhi, Dec. 23 (Samachar) Pakistan has sent eight wagon loads relief supplies worth rupees fifteen lakhs for the cyclone victims in South India. The Pakistan Red Cross has also sent fifty tonnes of rice valued at Rs. one lakh to the Indian Red Cross Society for the people of the cyclone affected areas.

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In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA for only less than two months. We expect to publish several articles and news items that will be of special interest to new immigrants.

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Secreta

By George Mathew

The reminiscences of a man who was close to Jawaharlal Nehru better than anyone else during the significant period of India's history of Independence unveils interesting data hitherto undisclosed. Some bare facts exposed bluntly had raised public controversy.

The author, M.O. Mathai says: "This book is not history or biography, but chatty stuff containing my reminiscences." The book deals with all important historic persons from Mahatma Gandhi to Indira Gandhi including the Mountbattens Mathai came across during his 13 years association with Nehru as India's First Prime Minister.

The controversy relates to the chapters on "Nehru and Women" and "Indira Gandhi". While his narration on "Nehru and Women" are scanty, he writes about Indira with a punch and devotes four chapters on Krishna Menon with a vengence.

Mathai was Nehru's special assistant and alter ego between 1946 and 1959 and was reputed to be the most powerful man after the Prime Minister. In the context of the post-emergency India, Mathai is referred to as the "R.K. Dhawan of Nehru less personal ambition". (Dhawan was Mrs. Gandhi's additional private secretary.)

Obviously Mathai was the only one to know everything about Nehru. Apart from Nehru's private thoughts, the author reveals all, with candour and sincerity, and says, "before I started writing this book I suspended from my mind all personal loyalties of a conventional nature; only my obligation to history remained."

The book gives completely fresh information about Nehru's style, Krishna Menon's personal habits, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit's extravagence, Feroze Gandhi's ambitions, and all about the Mountbattens.

It also deals with important persons like Shastri, Indira Gandhi, Patel, Kidwai, T.T. Krishnamachary, Maulana Azad, Rajaji, Rajendra Prasad, Radhakrishnan, Churchill, Bernard Shaw, Morarji Desai and a number of others.

Mathai resigned his post on account of unfounded malicious allegations by the Communists against him for misusing power. Nehru defended him even in Parliament and invited him to return to his post. But Mathai who had no ambition for paid government job anymore declined to reverse his decision. He keeps his pride throughout the narration of events of history in his book and reveals many things personal about others and nothing personal about himself.

Mathai's book was the subject matter of debate in Parliament. Bhupesh Gupta (CPI) who brought the issue in the Rajya Sabha said he never had seen such books denigrating national leaders. The book was part of a "monstrous strategy" of character assasination by reactionary forces. Congress

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IGRANTS

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Secretary reveals secrets of Nehru, Indira, Menon

By George Mathew

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Mathai's book was the subject matter of debate in Parliament. Bhupesh Gupta (CPI) who brought the issue in the Rajya Sabha said he never had seen such books denigrating national leaders. The book was part of a "monstrous strategy" of character assassination by reactionary forces. Congress members joined the issue with him shouting "shame, shame" and demanded the book be proscribed.

Twenty women M.Ps complained to the Prime Minister that the book was insulting to well-known figures in the nation's public life and was of bad taste.

The Chapter on "Nehru and Women" include Mridula Sarabhai, Padmaja Naidu, Shardha Mata (assumed name) and Countess Edwina Mountbatten.

NEHRU AND WOMEN

Mathai keeps his loyalty to Nehru even in this chapter. He seems to tell the reader that women pursued an "amoral" Nehru and ascribes the statement of Napoleon equally to him that "Woman is the occupation of the idle mind, and the relaxation of the warrior."

Mridula Sarabhai pursued Nehru with determination and in an uninhibited manner normally not associated with Indian women. She lacked feminine charm, clad herself in the most atrocious clothes, and generally disfigured herself. Nehru had lost interest in her by early 1946.

Padmaja Naidu was the elder of the two daughters of Sarojni Naidu. Endowed with a perpetual bedroom look, with features somewhat resembling a Negress's, she fashioned herself after the "black Princess" of the Ajante Caves.

She made it a practice to be in the Nehru household in Allahabad and later in Delhi as often as possible. She always insisted on being put up in the room next to Nehru's. Heavily burdened with huge, hanging breats, she perfected the art of folding them into her bra to look like Mae West. She always wore low-cut blouses and deftly managed to let her sari fall frequently from her shoulder before men to bare her breasts and make them shake like jelly pudding. When she occupied her room, she filled it with the aroma of powders and perfumes.

Indira disapproved of Padmaja coming too often and staying for too long; but she could do nothing about it.

Padmaja never liked to see Nehru in the company of any other woman. Once Nehru came to Lucknow with Lady Mountbatten while Sarojini Naidu was the Governor of U.P. Padmaja locked herself up in her robin and went into a tantrum. On another occasion when Lady Mountbatten stayed with Nehru in Delhi, Padmaja sent for Indira and told her that she wanted to hand over all the letters Nehru had written to her and would commit suicide. (Padmaja Naidu was Governor of West Bengal for more than ten years).

Shardha Mata (assumed name) was a sanyasini, young shapely and beautiful. She was granted an interview with Nehru at the instance of an old employee who introduced her as a scholar well-versed in ancient Indian scriptures and mythology. Meetings with her became rather frequent, mostly after Nehru finished his work at midnight.

Suddenly she disappeared and some months later a convent in Bangalore sent a decent-looking man to Delhi with a bundle of letters. He said that a young woman from northern India arrived at the convent a few months ago and gave birth to a baby boy. When she left the convent leaving the boy behind she forgot to carry her small bundle which contained a number of letters in Hindi. Nehru was told of the facts. He tore off the letters without any emotion reflected in his face.

"In matters of sex or the consequences arising therefrom, no politician will normally risk his political future by owning up and accepting the responsibility in all its aspects," Mathai comments.

When Edwina Mountbatten left India, she extracted a promise from Mathai that he would write to her regularly. This was not to be because Nehru started to reply her in his own hand. Their letters were numbered in order to make sure that if any went astray, it could be detected. The letters were marked "For himself." "I have been several times to the Rashtrapati Bhavan swimming pool with Nehru and Lady Mountbatten and have seen her in scanty swimming costumes. There was nothing physically attractive about her; but she had a nice face," Mathai records.

Practically every year Edwina used to halt in New Delhi for a number of days. Whenever Nehru stood by her side, he had a sense of triumph.

Once a princely woman from north India persuaded herself that she was in love with Nehru. Even though she met Nehru off and on, she did not get very far. When Nehru died, she imagined herself to be in deep private mourning which was a pathetic sight to watch.

Mathai says that sometimes Nehru had to be saved from himself and some of his so-called friends and quotes Voltaire: "Oh God, save me from my friends, I shall deal with my enemies myself."

INDIRA PRIYADARSHINI

Mathai's manuscript contained a chapter entitled "She" which was withdrawn at the last moment. The publisher's note says: "This chapter on an intensely personal experience of the author's, written without inhibition in the D.H. Lawrence style, has been withdrawn at the last moment."

Feroze Gandhi was attached to Kamala Nehru (Nehru's wife) as a Congress volunteer. He used to accompany her as a helper. Kamala Nehru expressed her strongest disapproval of the possibility of Indira marrying Feroze saying that "I do not want my child to be unhappy all her life." She died two months later.

As opposition to the marriage persisted, Indira adopted a truculent attitude. For some inexplicable reason, Nehru allowed the marriage to be performed according to Vedic rites in 1942. An inter religious and inter caste marriage under Vedic rites at that time was not valid in law. To be legal, it had to be a civil marriage. So strictly under the law, Indira was only a "concubine" and her children are "bastards."

In his chapter on "Indira", Mathai quotes a Malayalam proverb: "When a hen crows, it heralds the end of the world."

The first impression Indira made on Mathai 31 years ago was that of a conceit. With Indira conceit swelled with success.

It was on the recommendation of Lal Bahadur Shastri that Indira was taken into the Congress Working Committee and later as interim Congress President in 1959 by Kamaraj. Both were not at Nehru's initiative. Nehru neither encouraged it or discouraged it.

The Congress Parliamentary Party voted for Indira to succeed Lal Bahadur mainly for one reason – that she happened to be Nehru's daughter. A minister, says Mathai, asked him then what sort of a PM will she be and he said (and takes credit now) she will ruin this country... she will play a different type of politics – the politics of manoeuvre, manipulation and deception. She will have no loyalty to anyone except to herself... there is an element of crankiness in her nature. She will surpass Gladstone in axing people..."

Mathai gives five reasons for the downfall of Indira. (i) Her absurd advocacy of committed civil servants, committed judiciary and committed press; (ii) the sickeningly vulgar solidarity rallies artificially arranged in Delhi on the slightest provocation at public expense; (iii) reducing the Council of Ministers to a bunch of nonentities; (iv) befriending and making use of Communist Party of India and (v) making ghost-writers out of all except chaprasis.

Mathai concludes: "This is only the beginning; she is on the high road to ruining her party and herself beyond repair. She will not last long. What I am worried about is what forces will emerge in place of the Congress.'" He would write more about Indira in a companion volume to this book.

KRISHNA MENON

Mathai is highly critical of V.K. Krishna Menon, who according to him, never studied law. He stayed in the slum areas of London in extreme poverty. For long years he subsisted on innumerable cups of tea, biscuits and sometimes lentil cutlets. His father did not belong to a line of Rajas who enjoyed royal privileges.

All what Menon became in his life was because of Nehru who saved him from many upheavals and consequences of his arrogance. Without Nehru Menon would have been in the gutter.

In the four chapters Mathai spends on Menon there are some sexy anecdotes as well. Menon was incapable of performing the sex act. Once in New York, he got into trouble with a shapely young Spanish woman. She ultimately threatened to blackmail him by telling the press that Krishna Menon had been intimate with her. Finally he had to buy her silence at considerable expense.

All his life Krishna Menon chased controversy and sometimes controversy chased him. In death also controversy chased khim. People begin to ask questions about the sum of over Rs. 100,000 in cash and the fabulous wardrobe of expensive European clothes with 500 expensive unused British and French shirts thrown in, which he left behind.

Mathai's vengeance is understandable. He broke with Menon even during Nehru's lifetime and the principle appears to be "one Malayali hates the other."

NEHRU AND THE AUTHOR

Throughout the pages of the 300 page book, Mathai keeps his loyalty to Nehru and pours his admiration in abundance. He claims to be the only man who kept Nehur's confidence and acted as his informer. He had umteen occasions to correct Nehru. Every paper and person went to Nehru through him and he decided what Nehru should or should not know.

Nehru never took alcoholic drinks but was never an intolerant puritan like Morarji Desai. He normally did not eat bacon, ham or pork. He was not a vegetarian, but he did not eat meat at any time, particularly at home.

Nehru never asked anyone for money privately even for a good cause. He consistently refused to accept any donation in cash from anyone for any cause.

Mathai says Nehru was too much of a refined person to be arrogant. Sometimes he could be abrupt. He was also impatient.

Nehru had no use for any form of organised religion which only repelled him. However, he was not irreligious. He used to carry in his satchel a copy of the Light of Asia, Bhagavad Gita, the four Gospels, Asoka's Edicts and the UN Charter - all in tiny editions. He was never vindictive.

In conclusion Mathai records: "While he (Nehru) was alive, they (his feelings) were "more than yesterday, less than tomorrow. With the passage of time and in the perspective of his tory, my admiration and affection for him have grown. From 1946 I have known him in all his moods better than any other person. It is said that no man is a hero to his valet. But to me he is and will be as long as I am alive. No man is all recorded history was loved so much by so many for so long."

Reminiscences of the Nehru Age of M.O. Mathai, Vikas Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi-110 002. pp 300, Price Rs. 30.00

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HISTORY REPEATS

The Hydra-headed Congress Party of India has split again. The split followed a tug of war between the Congress President Brahmananda Reddy and Indira Gandhi. Indira Gandhi wanted control of the Congress Party while many other Congress leaders abhered the idea. It is hard to predict who will get a larger following.

Judged by the crowd-drawing capacity of Mrs. Gandhi one might feel that her faction of the Congress Party may eventually have a larger following than that of Mr. Reddy. However, many voters in India have not kyet forgotten how she looked in the other direction when her younger son became corrupted absolutely by absolute power, without any elected office. One can only imagine how much more harm the "rising son" would have done if he had an elected office. Another obstacle that Mrs. Gandhi may face is the references to her in a recent book by M.O. Mathai, who was Nehru's private secretary for 13 years, on the Nehru era. According to reports Mrs. Gandhi has not been presented in a favourable light in the book. Such character assassinations well deserved or ill deserved, can hardly help her to achieve national prominence again.

On the other hand the Reddy group does not seem to have many leaders who possess political charisma. Therefore, it is not easy to predict the future of this brand of Congressmen either.

Democratic system of government would have functioned more efficiently in India with a strong opposition party. Now the opposition having been divided, the ruling Janata itself may pull in different directions since the fear of Congress and of Mrs. Gandhi were holding the curious mixture of Janata Party together.

Letters

Bravo Mrs.Ghosh

Please accept, on behalf of all right-minded Indians who have made Canada their home, and on my own behalf, sincere apologies for the remarks made by Mr. Ashtamudi in the India Times of November 3. I feel almost personally culpable since Mr. A, to judge from his style of nomenclature comes from, I'm afraid, the same corner of India as I do.

Dear Mrs. Ghosh, you have paid Mr. Ashtamudi the compliment of reading through what he has written and of taking him seriously. I wonder if that was more than was called for? I started reading the article, felt like taking exception to many of the pronouncements but on second thought decided to have no truck with such "journalism". Now I perceive how it has offended you and dprobably quite a few others; good friends of India and Indian culture. Please try to forget it. Maybe it was meant as a joke-one in very poor taste indeed. Your rebuke is administered with grace, dignity, and wit. It is well deserved and leaves no dodubt in the minds of the readersf as to who is cultured and who is not in the present instance.

Savitri de Tourreil
Montreal

Sabotage to be checked

Home Minister, Mr. Charan Singh, said that a special cell had been set up by the government to deal with acts of sabotage.

The government was alert and was taking all possible steps to arrest the culprits responsible for the recent incidents. There was strong scepticion that some people wanted to create disorder in the country to buttress their claim for imposing emergency, "but we want individual freedom and the rule of law to flourish."

A man for all seasons
K.M.Pancker

B.G. Rao

Thirteen years ag, I had read in the "Tribal World of Verrier Elvin" a story which I looked up again when I heard that K.M. Panikkar's autobiography had been published. It runs thus: "Mrs. Besant came to Oxford to put her ward Krishnamurti into one of the colleges. She naturally went straight to Magdalen and interviewed the President. When Sir Herbert showed some reluctance to accept her candidate, Mrs. Besant exclaimed, 'But my ward is a very special person. I don't want to stress it, but he does happen to be the son of God.' Sir Herbert replied, 'Madam, we have the sons of many distinguished persons in this college.' Many years later, I told this story to Sardar Panikkar, distinguished writer and former Indian Ambassador to France when he visited Assam as a member of the States Reorganisation Commission. "Where did you hear that?", he asked. I told him that it was an old chestnut from my Oxford days. "Do you know," he replied, "I invented that story myself as a young man when I was hard up in Paris and wanted to earn a little money from the American Papers? The story appeared, first in America; it was repeated in the London Times and found its way to Oxford."

A CLASSIC

I began reading Panikkar's autobiography hoping that there would be more of such stories strewn all over. What I found was something entirely different.

The blurb tells us, "This book takes its place beside those classics of self-revelation by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Nirad C. Chaudhuri. K.M. Panikkar was a brilliant raconteur and the book therefore makes absorbing reading." Comparisons are often odius; and this could not have been more so. The Story of my Experiments with Truth is the revelation of a man's search for the solution of many human problems. Nehru's Autobiography is a sensitive analysis not merely of his own political ideas, but of the political changes through which the country passed between 1916 and 1934. Nirad Chaudhuri's book, again, is a class by itself — it dissects the nation with a surgeon's scalpel and exposes the malignancy inside. In all thes ethree, the first person singular is only a convenient peg on which to hand an analytical discussion. Panikkar's autobiography, on the other hand, is primarily and almost exclusively the first person singular — it belongs to a class of which we have had a large number since Independence. Yet, in this class, it is more interesting than many.

Panikkar's was a life with vast variety in it: Kerala, Madras, Oxford, Aligarh, Kashmir, Patiala, Bikaner, Peking, Cairo, Paris, Delhi, Mysore, with visits to various other countries; teaching, journalism, politics, political intrigue, administration, constitutional work, diplomacy; and all the while a very active mind contributing to Malayalam literature and political analysis. I am not at all competent to judge his contribution to Malayalam. Clearly, he was not a mere dilettante; his contribution to Malayalam literature is impressive in quantity and variety — prose, poetry, drama a literary criticism.' The impression the autobiography leaves on the reader is that the author himself considered that the quality was equally impressive — a pardonable assumption in any author.

POLITICAL LITERATURE

Of his contribution to political literature, the two earliest which he specially mentions — one holding that British parmountcy over the Indian States was limited in nature and extent and the other proposing a Federation of British India and Indian States — were of topical importance. The first was published in 1927 just when the Princes were upset by Lord Reading's historic letter to the Nizam, asserting the Crown's unrestricted right to interfere in the internal governance of the States. It ultimately led to the appointment of the Butler Committee and gave Panikkar an entry into the service of the States. The other, FEderal India published during the First Round Table Conference made specic an idea which had been vaguely going round for some time about a federal future for the Indian sub- continent. Two other books which excited more than limited interest were: The Future of South-East Asia, published in 1945, and India and the Indian Ocean, which followed in 1946. It is said that the term South-East Asia as distinct from the Near East, Middle East, Far-East was given currency by Panikkar in the first of these books; till then scholars used to refer to this region as Greater India — a term which the people of the region used to resent. In the Autobiography, Panikkar restates his view that "the security of countries like Burma, Siam and Malaya had to be linked with India if their independence was to be guaranteed against interference by other countries and consequently their economic and foreign policies should be coordinated with India's." But he does not mention that this view angered some of these countries: Prime Minister Kotelawala of Ceylon commented, "I have heard that M. Panikkar is supposed to know Pandit Nehru's thoughts ... India will be the father of Burma and Ceylon. We do not want such fatherly protection."

"Of all my English writing, I give the pride of place to my Survey of Indian History." This assessment by the author is thoroughly justified by the book which I have read more than once. Of all similar books on Indian history, so far published, it is perhaps the best; it is like A.F. Pollard's History of England in the Home University Library series. No wonder Panikkar writes lovingly and at length about how hard he worked on it.

Apart from this scholarly occupation, Panikkar's most fruitful years form 1927 to 1948 were spent mostly in the service of the Prince and the Chamber of Princes. Of he three States where he worked, he reminisces with the deepest nostalgia of Patiala whose ruler was to him the almost ideal king. Panikkar compares him in looks to Duryodhana, in appetite to Bhima, in generosity to Karna and concludes that he was "a man of outstanding intelligence; he coudl also be as devious as Chanakya." But it was in Bikaner that Panikkar wielded the widest powers as Dewan. Of Maharaja Sadul Singh (the name has been misspelt as Sardul Singh throughout the book) he writes, "Avarice, distrust of his officials, delight in flattery, an overweening vanity and a thirst for fame, dependence on favourites, all these defects were combined in him. He was a puppet in the hands of a favourite who was corrupt, evil and practically illiterate. It may be wondered how I managed to survive as Dewan for five years under such a prince." How he did manage can be explained by Panikkar's own qualities. C.L. Sulzberger's assessment of Panikkar in his A Row of Candles was, "He is a very vain, evil-looking character with a little pointed beard and the general appearance of a cartoon of Lenin. He is terribly conceited and full of his own importance. Practically everything he says is hogwash. Yet, the man is undoubtedly intelligent. Panikkar said, he knew Mao Tse-tung very well." We know from Panikkar's own writings that the last two words are not true.

Even though V.P. Menon in his authorititative account of the integration of the Princely States with what was known till Independence as British India, makes no mention of it, there is little reason to doubt the part which Panikkar played in the accession of the Princes to the Indian Dominion and their participation in the Constituent Assembly. This, apart from Panikkar's writings in English, had impressed Nehru who decided that he would be a good choice as an ambassador; and as Washington, Moscow and London were not available, he was assigned Nanking, the next most important diplomatic post.

Panikkar's account of his term in Cairo is more straightforward, for there were no incidents which later developed into controversies.

Panikkar possessed many of the qualities required to make a successful diplomat — precision, calm, good temper, patience. What he lacked was modesty. A former diplomat has warned all novices in the profession thus: "The danger of vanity in a diplomat can scarcely be exaggerated. It renders him vulnerable to the flattery or the attacks of those with whom he is negotiating. It may prevent him, at some crucial moemin, from confessing to his government that his predictions or his information was incorrect. And it is at the soot of all indiscretion and most tactlessness." The chapter in which Panikkar deals with his diplomatic assignments reveals a man who was a stranger to modesty. Discretion and modesty were not items in the mental make up of Panikkar. Even in small matters Panikkar wants to show off his intimacy with the elite. Thus he tells us that Kamala Nehru was known as Beti — she was not; he describes Vijayalakshmi Pandit as having been Minister of Local Self-Government.

But even for all this it is an interesting record of times, interestingly written and competently translated.

K.M. Panikkar: An autobiography — Translated form Malayalam by K. Krishnamurthy. Oxford University Press, Madras. pp 372. Rs 70.

Ramphals discussions

New Delhi, Dec. 28 (Samachar) India's concern over the growing protectionist trends in developed countries was shared by the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, S.S. Ramphal, during a half-hour discussion with the Minister for Commerce, Mohan Dharia.

Mr. Dharia and Mr. Ramphal felt that these trends, while affecting developing countries adversely, would also not help to contribute to the healthy growth of the developed countries' economy.

Mr. Dharia expressed his satisfaction at the progress made by the export market development fund of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

FILM

JAGADGURU
AADI SANKARA
Produced and d
Bhaskaran.

P. Bhaskaran
remember in th
cinema. He has
written lyrics for s
and produced o
directing 15 of
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awards: Neelakuil
Kandethillylla,
Vathil, Iruttint
Mooladhanam to n
His latest film
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Here's his reply:
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highlight Sankara'
not his poetry.

Bhaskaran felt in
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Most of the film
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Changing patterns of S.Asian families in Canada

By Ratna Ghosh and George Kurian

(Cont'd. from last issue)

Cultural Identity

The maintenance of cultural identity was an important concern for all the families. Almost all South Asian parents are anxious to make their children knowledgeable about their own culture. The visits to their homes in South Asia once in three to five years indicate a desire for the preservation of their distinctive culture. Hindi movies and other regional language movies on weekends are an occasion for parents as well as children to enjoy one of the most popular leisure-time activities. Attendance at other cultural and religious events also reveals their considerable and continuing interest in South Asian culture. While most do not always have the opportunity to inculcate religious values, the Christians are able to teach their children about religion and practice their religion with regular Sunday church worships.

While the children appeared to be greatly influenced by what their parents said, interview-data and observations suggest that they show a strong desire for acceptance by the peer group. Most of the Indian children have more Canadian than Indian friends. The peer groups exert strong pressures for "uniformity" within the group and actual differences in achievement and status tend to be minimized. The use of language, for example, while directly related to the length of stay in Canada, tends to be English rather than the mother tongue and English. While some children understand the mother tongue they all tend to talk in English. It is not uncommon for children to forget their mother tongue and sporadic visits to India tended to accentuate the ambiguity of their cultural situation.

Problems of Adjustment

The South Asian families are evolving new patterns of socialization which enable them to adjust to the demands of life in Canada without at the same time losing their cultural identity. This may be termed "creative adjustment" and the directions of change appear to be partly towards a Canadian pattern and partly responsive to traditional sentiments. It was found that many of the respondents had accepted some new patterns of behaviour relatively easily (social customs such as Hallowe'en), while others with difficulty (e.g. dress) and still others had been restricted (e.g. eating). This shows that individuals, like institutions, do not change rationally or consistently, but rather accept changes in areas to which they are open, stubbornly rejecting some and somehow adjusting to others.

It is extremely difficult to break down into measurable units the subtle factors which bind people together in groups. As people often speak in terms of group attitudes rather than their own, it appears that sometimes acts rather than words may reveal the intensity of feeling. Expression of inner conflict and guilt felt by these immigrants such as: they do not live up to traditional social and religious expectations, older parents left in India, the eating of beef by Hindus from an orthodox background or pork by Muslims illustrated the dilemma of people when circumstances pressure them to alter their patterns of behaviour.

Perhaps the greatest change taking place in the patterns of socialization concerns relationships between men and women. In the crucial aspect of the hierarchy of power and control in general, it was found that the Indian family does not accept complete emancipation of the children (e.g. in the choice of careers or selection of a spouse). Since the new independence of Indian children in Canadian society is supported by the peer group ethos and reinforced by the media of mass communication, it is bound to give rise to problems within the family. The new roles children learn to play in the education they receive make it difficult for them to fit into the traditional hierarchical organization of the South Asian family. In the industrialized societies, knowledge, experience and skills of older people no longer relate to the present and it becomes difficult for them to keep pace with a dynamically changing society. The importance, therefore, of their authority, responsibility and prestige tends to decline. These changes may bring South Asian parents many frustrations and anxieties and they may experience a loss of self-esteem and even feel intense social isolation.

We have discussed in this article some significant issues which arise in the process of socialization of Indian immigrant children as they take their places in Canadian society. This study is a tentative exploration of the process of integration of immigrants into the host society and its value rests rather in the questions that it raises for further research. South Asian families in Canada are adapting to a new way of life that will enable them to prepare their children to become successful citizens in a dynamic society, and in the process, they are experiencing the dilemma of all immigrants who have to adopt new values and norms of a host society while at the same time trying to retain their distinctive cultural identity.

Perhaps it may be that while a change is useful in many situations, a total break from traditions will leave the children with no cultural moorings. A gradual change to modernity will be less disturbing for society. One might as well look at the rate of accelerated change in Western society when parents find it hard to keep up with the changing ideals of the young. On the other hand, the young in their haste to keep up with the latest in material and non-material changes of society, at times get into situations where their own emotional and psychological stability may be affected. The evidence of maintenance of a cultural identity among South Asian families in Canada underlies their concern in this respect. Those from traditional family systems like the Chinese have been fairly successful in maintaining the traditional values, especially with regard to the discipline of children. It will be interesting to see whether the second and third generation South Asian children brought up in Canada will have sufficient incentive to maintain their identity.

(Accord)

Mrs. Jodhi Venkatachellum has taken over as the new Governor of Kerala. Pic shows her taking office at the hands of the Chief Justice of Kerala High Court V.P. Gopalan Nambiar.

FACING RACISM

What we do about slurs

We used a questionnaire which asked a limited sample of people about their experiences with slurs. Here is what we found. Of those who had experienced slurs, roughly half had ignored them. This inaction left most with feelings of anger, frustration and disappointment. The remaining half, who did something, felt some satisfaction, and in some cases received apologies.

Those who did nothing said:

- I didn't know what to do.
- I couldn't be bothered.
- I can't change people like that.
- I didn't feel anyone would back me up.
- I was afraid they would get angrier.
- I was afraid I would make the situation worse.
- I didn't want to spoil the party.
- I didn't want to lose the friendship.
- I was afraid they would say I couldn't take a joke, so I laughed, too.

In short, they thought they would lose more than they would gain. But their thinking was based on assumptions they made about other people. These assumptions led to fears which blocked their ability to act. They never discovered, therefore, whether or not their fears were well-founded.

What happens to you as a "victim" when no action is taken

- You feel further confirmed in feelings of helplessness.
- You see yourself as a "victim" and the other person as the "attacker."
- You deprive yourself of an opportunity to make any change in the situation.

What happens to you as the "attacker" when nothing is done

- Your prejudiced attitudes are further confirmed because no one has disagreed with you.
- You could have learned that other people feel differently, but have been left in ignorance.
- You have been deprived of an opportunity to deal with your fear and ignorance.

By Doris Stern and Helen Mackenzie of Hamilton
Drawings by Lynn Johnston

MOVING?
If you are moving send us promptly your new address.

President questioned
Proclamation of emergency

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The late night drama on the eve of the proclamation of emergency on June 25, 1975 was unfolded before the Shah Commission which resumed its hearing on December 5.

According to the case history before the Commission the late President, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed expressed doubts about proclaiming emergency in the country without Mrs. Gandhi consulting her Cabinet. He, however, signed the draft of the proclamation declaring the emergency when it was brought to him around midnight by R.K. Dhawan, the then additional private secretary of the former Prime Minister.

Though the Home Minister knew about the proclamation of the emergency most of the other ministers, top bureaucrats and the director of intelligence service were not taken into confidence.

On the night of June 25, 1975, a "top secret" letter from Mrs. Gandhi was received by the President in which the former Prime Minister referred to her earlier meeting in the day with the President and stated that she had received information regarding imminent danger to the security of the country.

Mrs. Gandhi stated that if the President was satisfied on this score, a proclamation of emergency under Article 352(1) of the Constitution had become necessary. She added that she was enclosing a copy of the draft proclamation for the President's consideration (In fact no draft was enclosed and the letter was meant for the record).

She also stated in her letter that she would have liked to consult her Cabinet on the subject but it had not been possible to do so owing to shortage of time and as the matter was extremely important she was permitting a departure from the transaction of business rules in exercise of her powers under Rule 12 thereof.

Mr. Ahmed asked the opinion of his secretary who advised him against such a step since it would be constitutionally not permissible. He asked for a copy of the Constitution for his reference.

"The President apparently saw the force in the agreement (of the secretary) and wanted to contact the Prime Minister on the telephone". Thereafter the secretary withdrew from the room and on his return after about 10 minutes the President told him that R.K. Dhawan, additional private secretary of the P.M., came in the meanwhile with a draft proclamation and he had signed it.

The documents before the Commission on the circumstances leading to the declaration of emergency provides interesting revelations:

The proclamation emergency had nothing to do with the law and order situation. Fortnightly reports of the Governors to the President and Chief Secretaries to the Union Home Secretary spoke of the law and order situation well under control.

The Cabinet Secretary, the Home Secretary, the Secretary to the P.M., the Director of Intelligence etc have testified that they were not even informed about the intention to declare emergency. Even the Law Minister was not consulted.

Those close to Mrs. Gandhi were informed about emergency at least three days in advance and yet Mrs. Gandhi told the President that she did not have time to consult the Cabinet.

Chief Ministers were used as messengers and Air Force planes were misused by them. The flights were shown as "training flights."

Only one Cabinet Minister was told about the decision (i.e. Home Minister Brahmananda Reddi) who felt that all arrests could be made under one emergency (external) which was already in force. But Mrs. Gandhi stuck to her decision.

Brahamanda Reddi, former Home Minister, Swaran Singh, former External Affairs Minister, Devraj Urs, Chief Minister of Karnataka, S.S. Ray, former Chief Minister of West Bengal and Vengala Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, boycotted the Shah Commission.

(Following the lead shown by Mrs. Gandhi, the Congress Working Committee decided that no Congressman should appear before the Commission till summons were issued against them.)

SHAH'S WARNING

When the Commission resumed its hearing on December 5, Justice Shaw said that "no one can avoid an inquiry into his or her involvement during the emergency" by not appearing before the Commission.

Mr. Shah observed that there appeared to be some "misconception" on the part of Mrs. Gandhi that the commission was seeking to challenge either the proclamation of the emergency or its ratification by Parliament. However, it was not his intention to enter into some sort of judicial or political argument.

OFFICIALS TESTIFY

A large number of officials of the Delhi Administration who appeared before the Commission include: Lt. Governor, Kishan Chand, J.R. Anand, former traffic manager of Delhi Transport Corporation, Mr. K.D. Nayar, former S.P., B.K. Mittal and P.M. Behal (New Delhi Municipal Committee). They are involved in using official machinery in organizing rallies in front of P.M.'s house in support of emergency.

Most of them testified that they were acting on instructions emnating from the former Prime Minister's house.

THREE FORMER MINISTERS

Three former ministers who were in Mrs. Gandhi's Cabinet told the Commission that in their opinion there was no case for declating emergency in 1975.

Jagjivan Ram, who was the senior most cabinet colleague of Mrs. Gandhi (now he is the Defence Minister in the Janata Government) said that the Cabinet meeting called on June 26 was merely to "inform" the ministers about the proclamation of emergency the previous night. He was completely surprised to learn about it.

He said he was under surveillance during the emergency and even his daughter and son-in-law were shadowed by the police.

He also said that there was no worsening of the law and order situation or the economic situation as such in June 1975 to warrant such extreme step.

H.R. Gokhle, former Law Minister, said that he came to know about the emergency at the Cabinet meeting only and he was not consulted about proclaiming of the emergency at any stage.

I.K. Gujral, former Minister for Information and Broadcasting (now he is India's Ambassador in USSR) said that though the situation after the Allahabad High Cout judgement of June 12, 1975 unseating Mrs. Gandhi, was not normal, he could not support the view that emergency was necessary. He also came to know of the emergency at the Cabinet meeting the following day.

Recalling his "confrontation" with Sanjay Gandhi about his handling of his ministry, Mr. Gujral said that there had been only one confrontation on June 26. (Mr. Gujral was abruptly dropped from the Cabinet and V.C. Shukla appointed to succeed him at the instance of Sanjay Gandhi).

The Former Cabinet Secretary, B.D. Pande, admitted before the Commission that the law and order situation in the country was by and large normal in the days just preceeding emergency.

DEMOLITIONS IN DELHI

K. Raghuramaiah and F.H. Mohsin, former Cabinet colleagues of Mrs. Gandhi deposed before the Commission that the late President Ahmed was "unhappy" over the demolitions in the Turkman Gate area in April last year.

They were examined by the commission as witnesses in the large scale demolitions and slum clearance in the Capital during emergency putting thousands of people in hardship.

Both the ministers appeared before the Commission defying the directive of the Congress Working Committee against congressmen testifying before it.

Among those who deposed on demolition were two former Municipal Commissioners, B.R. Tamta and B.S. Das, the former NDMC President S.C. Chhabra and a large number of shop keepers whose shops were demolished and arrested under MISA.

While the officials said that they were acting under directions from No. 1 Safdarjung Road, the former P.M.'s residence, the shop keepers said the demolitions were carried out at the behest of Mr. Sanjay Gandhi.

They were only informed orally about the demolitions and their plea for mercy went on deaf ears. Even when they obtained stay orders from the court, the demolitions continued. The stay orders produced by them were torn by the officials holding the operation and they remained helpless speciators.

Mr. Tamta said that during the emergency Sanjay Gandhi had become the virtual "de facto" administrator of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. He said the Delhi Development Authority was responsible for the Turkman Gate demolitions.

In a statement one of the officers stated that Mr. Jagmohan the then Vice-Chairman of the DDA used to refer to Mr. Sanjay Gandhi as "sain" (great man) during the emergency.

Kishan Chand, former Lt. Governor of Delhi, said that although he was the Chairman of the DDA, he was not aware of the demolitions and officials had direct access to the Prime Minister's house and he was by passed.

All the evidence clearly indicated that Sanjay Gandhi was deeply involved in the demolition operations in the Capital during the emergency.

Mr. Gandhi had attended two meetings convened by Mrs. Gandhi during July/August 1975 to discuss the demolition drive.

The Commission has asked Mr. Gandhi to appear before it.

In the Parliament...

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: The External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpayee, told the Lok Sabha that he has conveyed to China India's regret at a "factually incorrect and needlessly provocative" broadcast over Radio Peking in "strong terms."

Replying to a calling attention notice, Mr. Vajpayee said the government had taken a serious note of the broadcast and "we cannot but regret" that it should not have been made on the official Chinese media particularly when "we have obtained an improvement in our bilateral relations."

The Chinese broadcast recapitulated the Sino-Indian armed conflict of 1962 in order to underline China's determination to defend its borders.

The External Affairs Minister assured the House that India's position on the Sino-Indian border was uncharged. "Consistent with our territorial integrity and national dignity and on the basis of peaceful co-existence and the goal of mutually beneficial bilateral relations between our two countries, we hope that process of improvement in our relations with China will not be jeopardised by such factually incorrect and needlessly provocative statements."

M.S. Malik said that the former government's assessment of relations with China was on the basis of a "wink" or a "smile" by a Chinese dignitary.

Mr. Vajpayee said that the government was taking the matter very seriously. "As far as the government is concerned, there is no difference between word and sentiment, word and deed," he added.

INDIANS ABROAD

In a written answer the Lok Sabha was informed that the ogvernment was endeavouring to ascertain the total number of persons of Indian origin residing abroad.

More than 3,21,000 applications for passports are pending as on October 31, 1977 and of these more than 2,20,000 had been pending for over a month.

The largest number of these totalling 1,02,453 are at Ernakulam in Kerala.

WALK OUT

The Congress members walked out of the Lok Sabha on December 7, protesting against the ruling of the Speaker disallowing a privilage motion against the Shah Commission.

An adjournment motion related to Mr. Charan Singh's recent statement that a warrant of arrest would be issued against Mrs. Gandhi.

The Speaker said that the Shah Commission was inquiring into the circumstances which led to emergency and not into the validity of the proclamation and therefore there was no breach of privilege.

On another occasion the Speaker had to adjourn the house for 15 minutes because of noisy scenes following a remark by a minister about "congress mosquitoes" in the course of a reply.

The minister said that the country produced sufficient quantities of DDT sufficient to kill all the mosquitoes in the country including the "congress mosquitoes."

The remark brought the agitated congress members on their feet, all at the same time, and continuously shouting their protest. The Speaker adjourned the house to get over the noisy scene.

BILL VOTED DOWN

In the Rajya Sabha the government received a major set back when the house rejected by voice vote an official bill seeking to repeal the Banking Commission Act, 1975. The Congress Opposition has the majority in the Rajya Sabha.

The Bill had earlier been passed by the Lok Sabha where the Janata Party has the required two thirds majority.

This is the first time since the Janata Party came to power that hte Congress exercised its majority power to kill a government bill.

The Congress members felt that the objective of the bill was to sabotage the working of nationalized banks.

The government did not press for the passage of the bill, and allowed it to lapse.

Oil search with Russian help

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (Samachar) A delegation of Soviet oil experts, headed by D.A. Takayev, Deputy Minister of the oil industry of the USSR is arriving in India next week to discuss and formulate a long term program for further development of oil India with Soviet assistance.

Soviet organisations are prepared to develop cooperation with the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC(in planning the search for oil and in solving problems of drilling in complicated conditions, it is understood. They are also ready to assist in seismography prospecting and in other fields. Deliveries of Soviet equipment and assistance in training specialists will remain one of the main trends of Indo-Soviet cooperation in the oil industry.

Indo-Soviet cooperation in the field of oil exploration has resulted in the discovery of 40 oil and gas deposits in India which have yielded over 50 million tonnes of oil reserves and about 5,000 million cubic metres of natural gas.

Last year Indian and Soviet oil specialists completed important work on estimating the oil and gas resources in India and compiled plans for geological survey. All this has created pre-requisites for increasing the growth rate of oil production in India.

Genetic engineering denied

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (Samachar) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has sent an expert to the Bombay laboratory of the West German pharmaceutical firm "Hoechst" to verify the report that the firm is setting up a team to do genetic engineering in India.

The report which appeared in London Economist said "the company refuses so far to discuss its entry into this controversial science, or why it is choosing to site the research in Bombay instead of West Germany."

A DST spokesman said the report appeared "incorrect" but added that the department has sent a scientist to Bombay to investigate.

A spokesman for the firm in Delhi denied any genetic engineering work at Bombay and added that the Bombay team was only working on a new strain of microbe for the production of niomycin antibiotic.

Because of potential hazards of genetic engineering, some countries have banned such research while others have enforced tough guidelines for its conduct.

Britain already has a legal framework to control genetic engineering and the United States is considering a similar bill. India so far has neither finalized the guidelines nor set up an agency for regulating this research.

Genetic engineering covers such aspects as cutting and splicing genetic material such as DNA, manipulation of genes of microbes to produce new strains and hybrids and introduction of genes of one species into another.

Cosmopol

[Reprinted from Social Servic and Modern Society]

Parmatma Saran

(Cont'd. from last issue)

Politics

Considering the total India population in the United State the number of Indian organiza ions is overwhelming. In the Ne York City area itself there a more than one hundred organiza ions. The majority are region organizations, but a few repr sent the larger community — th is, they are based neither language, region, or religion. A of them claim to be nonpolitica However, a close look at the organizations indicates that the is a clear recongition on the pa of the leadership that the organizations are vital in order have some influence in politics this country.

The Association of Indians America, which is considered be broad based and professional oriented, is trying to obtain reclassification of Indians "Asian-Indians" for the 19 census. Presently Indians a classified as "Caucasians." T implication of this reclassificati is that Indians will be eligible f "minority status" and al qualify for equal opportun employment.

While many Indians privat concede that they would fe somewhat uncomfortable with t new "minority status," they al agree that the practical advan ges outweigh this disadvantag It is clear then that Indians a quite aware of the politics of pluralistic society, are quite eag to exert strength as a pressu group, and increasingly a proving it by their deed However, it should be noted th only about 10 or 15 percent Indian immigrants have beco American citizens. In ma informal interviews responde have revealed that they are fac with the dilemma of changi citizenship. However, sin barely 50 percent of them qual to become citizens, it would premature to make any judgm on this issue at this time.

Psychobiological Adaptatio Mental Health

Various studies have sho that there is some relations between migration and men disorder. Compared to previous immigrants gro studied — such as Norwegian Minnesota, Puerto Ricans in N York, West Indians in the Uni Kingdom, and various ot European groups the case of East Indians is very differ because of their distinct so cultural background, coup with their educational and eco mic status. However, it is c that Indians too feel the strain highly competitive and im sonal way of life, even tho they have close contacts wi the Indian community. There a few cases of divorce, inc illness, suicide, and sim pathologies.

Even though the Ind community is recent and sma is very well organized and developed organizations, ins tional mechanisms, and a s network which provides trem dous social support and help members meet the crises they confront in a new cul setting. However, it should pointed out that the leve tolerance is also very high, the Indian community attach strong stigma to those who psychological problems. A result, the incidence of psyc gical problems reported Indians is very small or non

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Cosmopolitans from India 3

[Reprinted from Social Service and Modern Society]

Narayana Sarma.

(Cont'd. from last issue)

Politics

Considering the total Indian population in the United States, the number of Indian organizations is overwhelming. In the New York City area itself there are more than one hundred organizations. The majority are regional organizations, but a few represent the larger community — that is, they are based neither on language, region, or religion. All of them claim to be nonpolitical. However, a close look at these organizations indicates that there is a clear recognition on the part of the leadership that these organizations are vital in order to have some influence in politics in this country.

The Association of Indians in America, which is considered to be broad based and professionally oriented, is trying to obtain a reclassification of Indians as "Asian-Indians" for the 1980 census. Presently Indians are classified as "Caucasians." The implication of this declassification is that Indians will be eligible for "minority status" and also qualify for equal opportunity employment.

While many Indians privately concede that they would feel somewhat uncomfortable with the new "minority status," they also agree that the practical advantages outweigh this disadvantage. It is clear then that Indians are quite aware of the politics of a pluralistic society, are quite eager to exert strength as a pressure group, and increasingly are proving it by their deeds. However, it should be noted that only about 10 or 15 percent of Indian immigrants have become American citizens. In many informal interviews respondents have revealed that they are faced with the dilemma of changing citizenship. However, since barely 50 percent of them qualify to become citizens, it would be premature to make any judgment on this issue at this time.

Psychobiological Adaptation: Mental Health

Various studies have shown that there is some relationship between migration and mental disorder. Compared to the previous immigrants groups studied — such as Norwegians in Minnesota, Puerto Ricans in New York, West Indians in the United Kingdom, and various other European groups — the case of the East Indians is very different because of their distinct socio-cultural background, coupled with their education and economic status. However, it is clear that Indians too feel the strain of a highly competitive and impersonal way of life, even though they have close contacts within the Indian community. There are a few cases of divorce, mental illness, suicide, and similar pathologies.

Even though the Indian community is recent and small, it is very well organized and has developed organizations, institutional mechanisms, and a social network which provides tremendous social support and helps its members meet the crises that they confront in a new cultural setting. However, it should be pointed out that the level of tolerance is also very high, and the Indian community attaches a strong stigma to those who have psychological problems. As a result, the incidence of psychological problems reported by Indians is very small or nonexistent. The time factor involved, however, is short and does not really provide substantial data at this stage to suggest any future trends.

Health-related Issues

In an earlier study A. V.N. Sarma and I investigated the change of ecology and social environment and its effect on a small population of Indian students and physicians working in the New York City area. One of the most significant findings from an ecological point of view was an increase in the number of episodes of upper respiratory tract diseases associated with urban as well as congested neighbourhoods.

A large number of Indian immigrants today are satisfied with the medical care they receive in the United States. However, they are divided insofar as preference for a doctor is concerned. Some feel that they have cultural and communication problems with American doctors; even more consult Indian medical friends before seeking professional help in case of illness. An overwhelming majority are more health conscious here than they were in India. They also go for periodic medical checkups.

Child-rearing Practices

As we look at the profile of Indian immigrants, we find that there is some variation in terms of their patterns of adaptation and assimilation into American society.

Observation of Indian families reveals that to a great extent parents translate their own values in raising their children. The most prevalent assumption among Indian immigrants is that the first six or seven years of a human being's life are the most important in the making of the personality. Therefore, if the child-rearing practices center around traditional Indian values, the child is more likely to identify with those elements and maintain his Indian identity. However, while early experience does have a great impact on the child's personality and self-image, environmental factors outside the family have an equally important influence.

I have already indicated that children are often faced with this dilemma and sometimes reject those values which are transmitted by their parents. This area warrants closer observation to test certain hypotheses in the area of child-rearing practices of Indian immigrants. One thing, however, is clear: it is not easy for the parents to find a middle ground which is satisfactory to them and acceptable or desirable from the point of view of their children.

Food Habits

Like their American counterparts, Indians also basically eat three meals a day. However, they do not eat as much for breakfast and lunch, but generally eat an elaborate, large dinner. A good number of the immigrants still have their evening tea with snacks, and therefore eat dinner usually after 8:00 p.m.

The majority of these Indians are nonvegetarians, but some especially among the women — do not eat beef. Even those who are not vegetarians do not eat large portions of meat, and in some cases do not eat meat on a daily basis. For the most part they eat little for breakfast, and lunch is generally eaten out. Dinner is the most important meal of all and includes rice, bread, vegetables, meat, and salad. There is some variation because of regional backgrounds, but the main difference is that those who are vegetarians have additional items such as some yogurt preparation, lentils, and so on. Tea remains the most popular beverage, but some prefer coffee. Most of the Indians drink alcohol socially, but their consumption of alcoholic beverages, even on social occasions, is very small.

On the whole, the food habits of Indian immigrants have not changed much. Those who have come since 1969 have not found any difficulty in buying Indian groceries, spices, and the like, and they have therefore maintained their eating patterns. Children, however, are more exposed to American food and often prefer it.

Leisure-time Activities

Patterns of leisure-time activities for the Indian community center around friends and family. The pattern of visiting friends on weekends, without prior engagement, was common during the earlier phase of immigration (1969-72); however, it no longer is. People now generally make plans for the weekend and invite friends specifically for dinner or lunch. Meeting friends along with family for dinner or lunch remains the most important leisure activity.

Shopping on weekends also takes a good portion of leisure time. Even if they do not have much necessary shopping to do, wives often look for bargains. In recent times going to Indian movies on weekends is perhaps the most popular thing to do. Many Indian singers, dancers, and comedians are frequently visiting cities in the United States, and this seems to be catching the fancy of the Indian immigrants.

Eating out, and going to Broadway plays or concerts is prevalent only among a very small proportion of the Indian immigrants. Participation in the activities of various organizations seems to be growing and is prevalent among most Indians irrespective of level of assimilation in American society.

Book review

By Ruth Gordon

The Immigrants by Gloria Montero published by James Lorimer, 222 pages, $12.95.

Until recently, Canadian historians have concentrated on anything but the social evolution — the wave after wave of immigrants leading to a daring experiment of cultural pluralism versus the melting pot.

"Immigration is a prime topic of discussion in Canada, but we always talk about immigrants," says Gloria Montero, in the introduction of her documentary volume The Immigrants. "I felt it was time to redress the balance. The other side of the story needed telling." And so she set off across Canada with a tape recorder talking to people, and it is their own stories which appear in her book.

Gloria Montero herself is the daughter of Spanish immigrants to Australia, whence she came to Canada.

The best parts of her book occur when the voice of an immigrant suddenly stands out from the others:

"Part of you changes and dries up. You are not whole anymore."

"I am learning that there are many ways to be a slave."

"I remember the first time we went back to **Sweden**. We were singing and somebody started to sing Home on the Range. I started to cry. I was homesick for Canada. It's people like me who have helped to build this country."

"I was alone in the enemy camp and I quickly surrendered. Integration equals annihilation."

"I have learned that old people should stay in their own countries where they know people and are known."

"To be a true Canadian, you must have white skin and big round blue eyes. When are we going to grow up."

"It was good I was patient in the beginning and did not go back to Japan. I think this country's life is easier."

"My dream is gone. What is this Canada people talk about? This just, equal place where people enjoy a multicultural society. It is a sham. I am here because there is no going back."

"It's funny, I wanted to learn English and in doing that I lost my own language."

And from four year old Mark: "I'm the best hockey player in the world, so I must be Canadian now."

The happy stories move one less, of course, than the sad ones. But something is missing — the necessary ballast of hard facts. The author's assertion that new arrivals are ground down by a "ruthless economic system" begs the question: "What system, what machine." And one often gets the feeling that all immigrants came from countries where life was idyllic, and this, of course, is fantasy.

India's offer to Yemen

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (Samachar) India has offered to help, in every way, in the execution of a four-billion-dollar five year plan in the Yemen Arab Republic (Y.A.R.)

Yemen did not have presently the basic infra-structure and was interested in involving India heavily in the development of their economy. Keeping in line with its policy of helping other developing countries, particularly in the Arab world, the government had offered any form of assistance that the YAR might desire.

This is the first time that such a high-level delegation had visited India for strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries. Two separate agreements have been signed, one on technical and economic cooperation by A.B. Vajpayee, External Affairs Minister and Mohammed Salem Basenda.

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FILMS

JAGADGURU AADI SANKARAN
Produced and directed by P. Bhaskaran

P. Bhaskaran is a name to remember in the Malayalam cinema. He has, since 1949, written lyrics for some 200 films, and produced over 35 films, directing 15 of them himself. Many of his films have won critical acclaim and national awards: **Neelakuil, Annaashiehu Kandothillylle, Thurakkatha Vathil, Inuflate Athmavu, Mooladhanam** to mention some. His latest film on Jagadguru Sankaracharya is of a different kind altogether. Why did Bhaskaran turn to a spiritual-devotional subject?

Here's his reply: A fascinating aspect of the Jagadguru is his poetic genius. That facet of the great reformer has not had the public appreciation it merits. His poetic calibre was no less than that of Kalidasa. It is another thing that his poetic imagination was directed to **bhakti** and the reform of his religion, in aid of his undaunted fight against superstition and obsolete customs. Earlier film-makers had tried to highlight Sankara's bhakti, but not his poetry.

Bhaskaran felt inspired also by Sankara's **Advaita** philosophy, his quest for truth and his zeal to find the meaning of life. After a good deal of research, Nagavalli R.S. Kurup wrote the film's screenplay and dialogue, selecting a few of the legends that have grown around the man who set up the Hindu mutts or dhams across the country over 1200 years ago. For tuning Sanskrit slokas, 'Soundaraya Lahiri' (which Sankara sang at the Sharada Temple in Kashmir) "Bhaja Govindam' and many other slokas and bhajans, Bhaskaran engaged Kerala's topmost musician V Dakshinamoorthy, who rendered them with sensitivity. A total newcomer, Murali Mohan, was selected to play the fair, tall and well-built Messenger of Advaita who toured India from Kerala to Kashmir thrice on foot. Murali acts with poise and manages to transmit the spiritual aura as well as the human qualities of the character with serenity and sensibility.

Yesudas and P B Sreenivas have soulfully sung the 'Bhaja Govindam' and other songs; the singing of the epic poem 'Soundaraya Lahiri' is enchanting, even if its profound meaning escapes one. The slokas are sung in the Tamil Brahmin style rather than in the Kerala Namboodiri way.

Most of the film was shot on actual locations, which means almost all the important places of Hindu pilgrimage — Kedarnath, Jushnath, Hardwar, Badrinath, Kulu and Kashmir and also the Periyar sanctuary. For this reason it is perhaps the costliest Malayalam colour film so far (Rs 10 lakhs), costlier than Ramu Kariat's star-studded bonanaza, Nellu. Yet the special effects, wholly the miracles of Sankara are not slick enough; the table-top constructions and curtain backdrops show up in places, stock shots of the same crocodile (while caught the Sankara's legs while he was taking a bath in a stream) are shown in various colours. Sankara's chief disciple uses Karate tricks while fighting devilish people. The agnostics dance is a concession to box-office like the use of gaudy and fancy dresses made of modern textiles. And, why is Sankara shedding tears whenever he is shown singing especially in praise of God?

The film has had trouble with the censor. Many orthodox people objected to it on many points, some challenging the story of the birth of **Sankara** as depicted in the film. Others objected to some of the legends included. So many of them in many variations have grown around Sankara that the film-makers have had to be selective.

Shot in semi-documentary style, the film reminds one of Subramanyam's **Swami Ayyappan**. The style and treatment are comparable.

Incidentally, the first film on Sankaracharya was made in the silent era (1927) and with the title **Renaissance of Hindulism**, produced by the Kinema Arts. There have been other nondescript films on the saint-philosopher-poet. Bhaskaran's is the first serious and worthwhile attempt at depicting his life, message and poetry.

DARSHAK in Democratic World

SESHA SRAVAN [Oriya]
Directed by Prasanta KUmar

Achchut Kanya ("The Untouchable Girl") was the first Indian film on the evils of the caste system: forbidden love-affair between a caste Hindu boy and a Harijan girl and impediments to their marriage. **Sesha Sravan** has a finer theme, tackled in a straightforward manner. A young Harijan lad, Sonia, saves Manika from drowning in a flooded river. Manika is taken care of by Sonia's mother whose happiness knows no bounds. But when it is discovered that Manika is a Brahmin, Sonia fears a scandal. Sonia takes Manika back to her parents who refuse to accept her for she has spent a few days at the house of a lower-caste. Sonia brings her back to his home and treats her as a sister. He even finds a match for her from a respectable caste Hindu family. But the prospective bridegroom dies in an auto accident. Both Sonia and Manika are crestfallen. For giving shelter to a Brahmin girl, Sonia is deprived of his fishing rights, his only means of livelihood. Manika considers herself the cause of Sonia's suffering. It is the month of Shravan with its incessant downpour. Manika takes her life by jumping into the flooded river. Her problems are solved. But what about Sonia's?

The plot is anti-hero and anti-heroine. The relationship between the Harijan body and the Brahmin girl is so developed that tragedy appears inevitable. The solution to their dilemma may be simplistic. Yet one is influenced not only by the logic of the denouncement but also by the lack of sermonising by the characters who are more human than star-like.

The film starts on an unsatisfactory note — a folk dance replete with all the suggestive gestures of hip and bosom. But sensitive performances by the lead couple — Prasanta Kumar and Maheswata Ray and also by the mendicant witness to all the miseries that befall the couple make the film memorable. It was surprising that it did not receive an award at the 1977 National Film Festival — though lesser films like **Garam Hava** got it. Some consolation that the film was declared the best Oriya entry.

MANDIR MASJID

Directed by Mohammed Hussain

The film is on a curious communal problem: A Hindu mother is obliged to breast-feed and bring up two children, one her own and the second born of Muslim parents. The Muslim child grows up and falls in love with a Muslim girl whose fanatic father does not accept a son-in-law nurtured by a Hindu mother. No argument works on him. But the story writer helps out. The old man meets with an accident and needs blood transfusion for survival. It so happens that only the Hindu mother's blood matches his. She willingly donates. And he realizes he has not become a **kafir** merely because Hindu blood coursed through his veins.

This unlikely story is hammered in by crudely portrayed characters at the expense of logicality. Nutan as the Hindu mother carries the film on her slender shoulders with some dignity, hers being the only sane role in the whole film.

DARSHAK in Democratic World.

[illegible] MURARI HERO BANNE

Written and directed by Asrani

The theme is not new: aspirations of a young man to be a matinee idol, his trials, his loneliness after he becomes a star. The hero Murari is a middleclass young boy whose father, a tailor, wants him to be the best cutter in town. He is however, cinema-crazy and bent upon trying his luck in Bombay after stealing money from his father. The first half of the film is hilarious — Murari's day dreams, his confrontation with cine stars, directors and the many faux pas he makes on the way to the top. There are some original scenes. Like when he, dressed as a postman to deliver a telegram to actor Nazir Hussain, starts speaking instead of his ambition to seek the latter's help. This lands him a role with Hema Malini with whom he dances the marionette and he is proclaimed a star overnight. He wins awards and comes on the covers of film magazines. Shades of Asrani's autobiography. The second half is the usual sentimental claptrap — involvement with a Christian girl, misunderstandings break-up, clearing of doubts, confession of loyalty and an expectedly happy ending.

Taken as a whole the film lacks freshness. Certain scenes from old films are strung together to create a melange. Asrani himself in the role of Murari is not as impressive as he is in small roles in other films. Bindya Goswami as his sweetheart acts better. The best however is A K Hangal, playing Murari's tailor-father, in an effortless, sober and natural manner. About a score of actors and actresses in their "guest roles" play to their set images, for box office benefit.

Asrani's first directorial attempt, proves his potential for an out and out comedy. It is a film-maker's misconception that total comedy is not a success with the audience. This has been proved by the successes of **Pyar Kiya Ja** and **Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi.**

DARSHAK in Democratic World

The President, Sanjiva Reddy, talking to the cyclone-hit people of Andhra Pradesh during his visit to the affected areas. The Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Mrs. Sharada Mukerjee, is seen on his left.

Good Citizenship deserves a Medal

Do you know anyone here in Ontario who—through selflessness, humanity and kindness without expecting anything in return—has made this a better province in which to live?

That's the kind of person for whom the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship was established.

Recipients are selected by an independent Advisory Council of Ontario citizens whose honorary chairman is the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province.

Anyone may nominate a person for the Ontario Medal, and nomination forms are available by writing:

Executive Secretary
Advisory Council
Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Making a nomination is itself an act of appreciation for good citizenship. All nominations should be received by April 15, 1978.

Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship

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New Delhi, Dec. 26 (Sama
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DR. G.P. Mathur, a bioch
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Skin colour can be changed

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (Samachar) A biochemical way of changing the complexion of a person is claimed to have been found by researchers at a Bombay research centre.

DR. G.P. Mathur, a biochemist at the Hindustan Lever Research Centre (HLRC) told newsmen his studies on skin pigmentation over the last ten years have shown it is possible to make dark skin brown and a brown skin fair by controlling the spread of the skin pigment called "melanin."

Melanin is produced by cells known as melanosites below the skin. Dr. Mathur said skin complexion depends on the depth at which the melanosites are present and on the manner in which melanin is dispersed.

While all these were known to scientists for a long time Dr. Mathur claimed that his studies at HLRC had for the first time demonstrated that the dispersion of melanin could be controlled by biochemical way and hence skin complexion changed.

Durga Puja

With reference to the letter by Mrs. Dipti Sarkar published in our issue dated December 15, 1977 we would like to point out that the former half of the article "Durga Puja in Toronto" was based on 'Harbourfront News' and only the latter half was written by our reporter. Her write-up begins at the second column, right below the byline.

scooter demand abroad

Patna, Dec. 29 (Samachar) Bangladesh is keen in importing scooters produced by Bihar State industrial development corporation at Fatwah in Patna district.

Two firms of Bangladesh have written to the corporation asking for terms and conditions, a press release issued by the corporation said.

Indo-Canadians to bleed

Ottawa: On Thursday February 16, 1978 at Billings Bridge Shopping Centre there will be a Community Blood Donation drive between 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m. at which you are urged to give blood, the gift of life. Make your pledges now by contacting Pool Roy at 825-4081 or the executive of India Canada Association, Indo-Canadian Community Centre, Deshantari, Ottawa Sikh Society, Malayali Association, South India Cultural Association and India Student Association.

FOREIGN TOURISTS

The number of international tourists visiting India from April to September this year had registered an increase of about 21 per cent compared to the corresponding period last year.

The Civil Aviation Minister said that the number of international tourists visiting the country during the period was 278,142 as compared to 230,145 in the corresponding period last year.

Samachar break up

The Congress M. Ps assailed the move to break up Samachar and said that it would make the agencies more dependent on the government. The agency will not be financially viable and in the interest of the employees Samachar should be maintained.

L.K. Advani, Minister for Information and Broadcasting, said the government had no option but to dismantle Samachar - a "deliberate distortion" of the emergency - and revert to the position which had existed before.

He said Samachar was not a natural evolution in ews agency development as claimed by some Congress members.

"It was a deliberate design to make the news agencies serve as a tool of the ruling party for purposes of political aggrandisement," he said.

Mr. Advani said restoration of status quo ante was only the first step. He hoped that there would be "dynamism, a spirit of enterprise and some sense of adventure" in the working of the news agencies.

Singh transferred

Onkar Singh who was First Secretary Information of the Indian High Commission in Ottawa for the last 3 years has been transferred to Bagdad.

Getting along together is important.

This is what Ontario is doing to help develop understanding between people.

As our society grows more diverse, community tensions may arise from time to time. Our responsibility is to help individuals, groups and communities resolve any difficulties that may occur, and reduce tension so that greater understanding and respect may be reached.

The Ontario Human Rights Code is designed to assure the rights and dignity of all persons without regard to race, creed, colour, nationality, ancestry, place of origin, age (40-65), sex and marital status.

In addition to investigating and mediating complaints of discrimination in such areas as employment, housing, public services and facilities, job advertisements and the posting of signs and notices, the Ontario Human Rights Commission works for healthier relations between groups at the community level.

Community counselling is one of the major roles of your Ontario Human Rights Commission. We endeavour to break down communication barriers among groups by working together with agencies, institutions and the community itself. By explaining both the rights and responsibilities of all residents in this province, we believe that the aims and the objectives of the Code can be achieved.

If you would like more information or assistance, contact the Ontario Human Rights Commission office nearest you:

HAMILTON
1 West Avenue South
Postal Zone: L8N 2R9
Telephone: 527-2951

KENORA
808 Robertson Street
Postal Zone: P9N 1X9
Telephone: 468-3128

KITCHENER
824 King Street West
Postal Zone: N2G 1G1
Telephone: 744-7308

LONDON
550 Wellington St
Postal Zone: N6A 3R8
Telephone: 438-7291

OTTAWA
2197 Riverside Drive
Postal Zone: K1H 7X3
Telephone: 731-2415

PETERBOROUGH
267 Stewart St
Postal Zone: K9J 3M8
Telephone: 743-0361

SAULT STE. MARIE
125 Brock Street
Postal Zone: P6A 3B6
Telephone: 949-3331

SUDBURY
1538 LaSalle Boulevard
Postal Zone: P3A 1Z7
Telephone: 566-3071

THUNDER BAY
435 James St. S
Postal Zone: P7E 6E3
Telephone: 475-1693

TORONTO
400 University Avenue
Postal Zone: M7A 1T7
Telephone: 965-6841

WINDSOR
500 Ouellette Avenue
Postal Zone: N9A 1B3
Telephone: 256-3611

Ontario Human Rights Commission

Bette Stephenson, M.D., Minister of Labour

William Davis, Premier

Province of Ontario

Kitchen Korner

By Pranati Sengupta

NEW HOBBY

Are you getting tired of eating all those holiday foods? No matter how much we like parties or party foods, there always comes a point when we just don't want any more. JFanuary is the time of the year when many canadians go south for their winter vacation to some sunny spot. According to the travel agents in Ottawa, the number of southbound vacationers is increasing despite the falling Canadian dollar. dIf you are staying home like a few of us, I would like to cheer you up by introducing a fnew topic.

I'm developing a new skill. It's called Collecting Restaurant Menus. Whenever I eat out, I always order something new, not just to taste it, but also to see how it is presented. I am even getting some miniature souvenir menus from the restaurants, especially whend I am visiting other countries. jkIt's so much fun to keep a record of what I ate and where I ate it. On our recent trip to Florida, we did not find any formal gourmet-style restaurants, but we enjoyed eating in several informal-type family restaurants where the food was really good and inexpensive too. Florida is not only blessed with an abundance of the finest citrus fruits in the world, but it is also a great place for the seafood lover. There are many talented chefs across Florida who know how to prepare seafood in style and how to use oranges and grapefruits in a variety of appetizing dishes.

I used to wonder what it was that attracted d(and still attracts) thousands and thousands of Canadians to Florida every year. It couldn't be just the sunny warm weather. Perhaps it's the beautiful beaches or the golf courses, or the chance to explore the playground of the world - Disneyland. Whatever the reason, a great percentage of Canadians are spending their vacation in sunny Florida. On our trip, we chose Orlando as our central location. The best way to see Florida is by car (cars are plenty to rent). For those who dislike driving, there are many exciting sightseeing bus tours to choose from including trips to Miami Beach, Daytona Beach, Tampa, Disney World, Syprus Gardens, the Citrus Tower, etc. No visitor to Florida should leave without spending at least a week exploring the surroundings. Of the many attractions throughout Florida, Disneyland is the most unique. Its wide variety of attractions is sure to please all. The Magic Kingdom, another name for Disneyland, is a very appropriate title for this most enjoyable amusement park. Nothing compares with the nightlight parade - an electrical computerized procession of many floats that makes its way through the crowd in front of the spectacular 'Cinderella's Castled'. Dazzling fireworks behind the Castle conclude the enjoyable evening. For a souvenir hunter, it's a dream world with beautiful boutiques and shops. There was even a bank where one could exchange Canadian dollars.

After spending a busy day at Disneyland, many people like to relax at Florida's famous beaches. The Miami Beach area is excellent for swimming, boating, fishing and of course sunbathing. Compared to Miami Beach, Palm Beach is more picturesque and quiet. But we really enjoyed several miles long Daytona Beach. Driving is allowed on the beach and mobile canteens provide all sorts of snack foods.

Back to my new hobby. Orlando is just abounding in chain restaurants. Morrison's Cafeteria, International House of Pancakes and Red Lobster are only a few of them. Among them Morrison's Cafeteria is the best. With its vast buffet and low prices it's an ideal for the whole family. The buffet starts with different varieties of salads, but the fresh fruit salad with big, red, juicy strawberries is in a class of its own. Main dishes include roast beef with gravy, glazed ham, roast turkey with cranberry, halved barbecued chicken, and delicious seafood. A plate of large hot, deep fried shrimps is cheaper than in any other place we ate. The delicious, tender, flaky Sole Almondine was superb. The portion was large and the price was low. There were also many other dishes such as cooked beans, chili, macaroni and spaghetti to suit almost anyone's taste. With Morrison's vast selection of desserts, you will be tempted to forget your calorie chart. At a buffet, the children can choose as much as they want of whatever they like. Teenagers can enjoy an adult nourishing meal. The only complaint I had was that the place was always crowded and sometimes we had to wait for more than an hour in line.

To be continued.....

This is the law

By Robert Karoly

(Canadian Scene) — Some of the drug problems that youngsters run into involve soft drugs such as marijuana and hashish, and chemical drugs such as speed, MDA and acid.

Three of the most common charges in this area are possession, possession with intent to traffick, and trafficking. For someone to be convicted in Canada of the charge of possession of drugs, the Crown Attorney must prove three elements of the crime: 1) that the drug in question is an illegal drug; 2) that the accused person knew it was a drug; 3) that the accused person had the drug (not necessarily on his person) or that he had meaningfully indicated his consent else having it.

Perhaps it would be best to discuss these three elements of the crime of possession by the use of an example. Let us assume that Tony hitches a ride at Dundas and Yonge in Toronto with the intention of getting out at Lawrence and Yonge. Along the way the driver pulls out a bag of grass and puts it on the seat between them, and tells Tony that he had bought the marijuana yesterday. A few minutes later, the car is stopped by the police who confiscate the dope and charge both Tony and the driver with "possession of marijuana".

Is Tony guilty of the crime of "possession" which is an offence under the federal Narcotics Control Act?

Before a judge can decide this question he must consider all of the following three elements of the offence: a) Illegal Substance - the Crown will generally get an RCMP chemist to testify that he analyzed the substance and found it to be marijuana. This element is quite important as it is no offence to be in possession of oregano which is not an illegal substance. b) Knowledge - The Crown will have to prove that Tony knew, or at least had sufficient reason to believe that the bag contained a drug. c) Physical Control - where the Crown most likely would lose its case against Tony in trying to prove that he had physical control of the drug. On the other hand, if Tony had been the driver and a hitchhiker had put the dope on the seat between them, then, the question of whether or not Tony had some physical control over the dope while it was in the car could depend on whether he did not object to the hitchhiker bringing the dope into the car — either by telling him to get rid of it or stopping the car and telling him to get out.

conference

Gaya, Dec. 29 (Samachar): Over 2000 Buddhists from Sri Lanka, Nepal, Tibet, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand and others are attending third international buddhist conference at Bodhgaya.

Immigration documents are forgeries -Official

The Canadian Council for Racial Harmony is neither surprised nor horrified at the recent revelation of the existance of confidential government documents which are racist, discriminatory and slanderous to the East Indian people because the Council has had these documents in its possession for over six months. At that time the Council was of the opinion that these documents were too racist and explosive in nature to be believed to exist in any civilized country. But, now that the immigration officials and spokesmen have called such documents to be forgeries and "frauds", the Council has no alternative but to release the said documents.

An immigration official in Ottawa is reported to have said, "We'll examine our books to see if they actually exist. But speaking for myself, I doubt we've ever had anything like that". Another ministry official had the audacity to question the timing of the press release of the document. In his opinion the document should have been released only during their office hours to give them enough time either to doctor their books or to defend themselves.

From the Council's casework dealing with the immigration department it is clear that many of this department's actions have been unchallengable even in courts due to the existance of confidential policies. Many senior officials of the department have maintained that their policies are beyond reproach, and their actions are above the law. "The Immigration Department is the law unto itself" appears to be the maxim in the immigration circles.

The historians will mention Chinese head-tax, Komagata Maru and East Indian Control Program in their illustrations of the immigration policies of Canada.

For further information: J. Bhadauria 463-4246.

Committee to examine Pitman Report

The Indian Community got very active following the publication of Dr. Walter Pitman's report on racial violence entitled "Now it is not too late." The report contains several recommendations for the metro police. A press conference, organized by alderman Alan Sparrow of City Hall, was held on Dec. 6. It was attended by representatives of NACOI, IIA3 (Indian Immigrant Aid Services), Prabasi, Canadian Council for Racial Harmony, Urban Alliance on Race Relations. The purpose of the press conference was to express community support to Pitman's recommendations and to condemn the statements made by the Police Commissioner and Police Chief in response to above recommendations. Everyone agreed that the irresponsible reaction by the police showed insensitivity and negligence towards E. Indians. The news was correct on CBC, CTV, Toronto Star, Globe and Mail and local radio stations.

The above community representatives were invited to the Metro Council meeting on Dec. 9 where all the mayors of Toronto met the metro chairman Paul Godfrey. Each representative was allowed to present his views or recommendation to metro council. The council voted to form a committee to look into Pitman's recommendations and find ways to implement them. They were told to include E. Indians in the Committee's work.

SAPA wants Action on racism reports

By Basanta Ghose

Findings of two massive reports one by Dr. R. Ubale Equal Opportunity and Public Policy and the other by Walter Pitman **Now Is Not Too Late** on the racial situation in Metro Toronto in addition to the impressive demonstration against racism on Nov. 6, confirms very clearly in people's minds what (SAPA) South Asian People's Association along with other progressive people and organizations have been saying over the last two years; i.e. There is a very real problem of racism in Toronto against Third World peoples — and most clearly against people of South Asian origins.

In light of the above we are appalled and distressed by "off the cuff" remarks by police authorities, immediately following Pitman's report being made public.

This kind of knee-jork reactions by responsible people in law enforcement agencies does nothing to promote better understanding between minorities and official agencies of the government. We are concerned that phrases like 'superflous' and 'chronic complaining by South Asians' will confirm in the minds of racist elements in the police force and the community at large that public officials are not serious about tackling racism and the racists have free licence to vent their racist feelings on South Asians and other minorities.

As a minimum requirement we provisionally suggest three points and stress their importance:

1) We urge that the police force admit that there is a serious racial problem in Toronto and it is escalating, mainly against the South Asians.

2) The South Asian community is increasingly loosing trust and faith in the law enforcement agencies and to right this breach of faith the police should accept to implement the 18 recommendations suggested by the Pitman report.

3) Time for action is now. The recommendations should be acted upon immediately, before the racial situation in Toromo takes a turn for the worse — and further victimises the South Asian and other minority communities.

Smith to monitor racism incidents

Opposition Leader Stuart Smith has announced he is establishing a special telephone line the public can call with complaints about police handling of racial incidents. He made the announcement during a discussion of racism in Metro on a radio open line show. (Radio CHIN).

"We're making ourselves available to hear from persons who might feel they were given inadequate or inappropriate response by police officers," he said. "We will follow up in each instance with the appropriate police authority and obtain an explanation for the people involved." Dr. Smith emphasized that setting up the hotline to his Queen's Park Office had more to do with the lack of Liberal Constituency Offices in Metro than any criticism of present avenues for public complaints.

"In cases where people might be reluctant to take their complaints to existing institutions and organizations," he added, "we hope they might be more comfortable approaching an individual. When you have only one Metro Member and she is swamped, then you have to come up with an idea to make yourself available to the people here in Metro." "I want to emphasize that I have considerable respect and admiration for the Metro Police and that we want this hotline to operate in a complementary way."

The telephone number (965-4640) rings through to Dr. Smith's offices in Queen's Park.

MOVING ?
If you are moving send us promptly your new address.

B.P.

OTTAWA: Bharat P Mathur, 64, Indian news Samachar's Canadian re tative passed away on ber 27 after a heart attack eve of Christmas. Mr. also represented All India and some Indian news He was a frequent contrib the Canadian India Times

Mr Mathur arrived in in 1974 after retiring fro Central Information Ser the Government of India his retirement as Direc Public Relations in the M of Defence, he served as tary of the Press Cou India. At one time he wor Public Relations Officer w International Commisa Supervision and Contr Cambodia.

While in Ottawa Mr. brought out an excellent book for Indians in Ottaw — a publication that in many valuable pieces of ation including a telepho ectory of Indo-Canadians.

A funeral service offici Dr. Madhu Sahasrabudh held at Kelley's Funeral attended by a number Mathur's friends and ac ances including the High missioner of India Mehaboob Ahamed.

Onkar Singh, First Sec Information, of the High mission spoke at the service on the politene many other good qualities Mathur. Dr. John Sa Trustee of the Ottawa Bo Education in his eulogy Mr. Mathur's high moral pals, ability and dedicat hard work and pursuit o lence. Dr. Samuel said t Mathur was a "Karmayo believed in fulfilling Dharma" and followed vice of Bhagavat Gi "action is superior to ina

Agreemen with EEC

New Delhi, Dec. 27 (S Two sectoral agreement ing for unrestricted and entry of Indian coir and j into the European Community were signe conclusion of the year ious between the two s

The agreements wer by Dr. P.C. Al Commerce Secretary on India and by M. Casper Director General for relations of the E.E.C. ion on behalf of the com

Under the agreemen coir products now s twenty percent of the tariff will enter the c duty free from January year and for the re existing quantitative re of jute products from Originally removal of re on jute products was c ted from July next decision now stands ad

The agreement on co for joint cooperation con investigate possibil cooperation in pr methods, research and ment of new techn preparing and manufact and coir goods for expan of the fibre, for d contacts and facilitat projects by represent Trade and Industry on b

A similar committe envisaged for jute pr diversify the end use products and promoting and development.

Coir and Coir produc to the community were of Rs. 13.24 crores la of jute goods Rs. 21.

B.P.Mathur dies

OTTAWA Bharat Prakash Mathur, 64, Indian news agency Samachar's Canadian representative passed away on December 27 after a heart attack on the eve of Christmas. Mr. Mathur also represented All India Radio and some Indian newspapers. He was a frequent contributor to the **Canadian India Times**.

Mr. Mathur arrived in Canada in 1974 after retiring from the Central Information Service of the Government of India. After his retirement as Director of Public Relations in the Ministry of Defence, he served as Secretary of the Press Council of India. At one time he worked as Public Relations Officer with the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Cambodia.

While in Ottawa Mr. Mathur brought out an excellent **Hand-book for Indians in Ottawa-Hull** — a publication that included many valuable pieces of information including a telephone directory of Indo-Canadians.

A funeral service officiated by Dr. Madhu Sahasrabudhe was held at Kelley's Funeral Home attended by a number of Mr. Mathur's friends and acquaintances including the High Commissioner of India H.E. Mehaboob Ahamed.

Onkar Singh, First Secretary, Information, of the High Commission spoke at the funeral service on the politeness and many other good qualities of Mr. Mathur. Dr. John Samuels, Trustee of the Ottawa Board of Education in his eulogy praised Mr. Mathur's high moral principals, ability and dedication for hard work and pursuit of excellence. Dr. Samuel said that Mr. Mathur was a "**Karmayogi who believed in fulfilling his Dharma**" and followed the advice of **Bhagavat Gita** that "action is superior to inaction."

Mr. Mathur was cremated on December 29 at the Pinecrest Crematorium and the ashes were flown to India.

Mr. Mathur is survived by his wife and three children — a daughter, Renuka, a son Uday, both in Ottawa, and a son Navin, currently living in New Jersey.

Agreement with EEC

New Delhi, Dec. 27 (Samachar) Two sectoral agreements providing for unrestricted and duty free entry of Indian coir and jute goods into the European Economic Community were signed at the conclusion of the year negotiations between the two sides.

The agreements were signed by Dr. P.C. Alexander, Commerce Secretary on behalf of India and by M. Caspari, Deputy Director General for external relations of the E.E.C. commission on behalf of the community.

Under the agreements Indian coir products now subject to twenty percent of the normal tariff will enter the community duty free from January one, next year and for the removal of existing quantitative restrictions of jute products from that date. Originally removal of restrictions on jute products was contemplated from July next year. The decision now stands advanced.

The agreement on coir provides for joint cooperation committee to investigate possibilities of cooperation in production methods, research and development of new techniques of preparing and manufacturing coir and coir goods for expanding uses of the fibre, for developing contacts and facilitating joint projects by representatives of Trade and Industry on both sides.

A similar committee is also envisaged for jute products to diversify the end uses of jute products and promoting research and development.

Coir and Coir products exports to the community were the order of Rs. 13.24 crores last year and of Jute goods Rs. 21.66 crores.

Brandt Cimmission in India

New Delhi, Dec. 28 (Samachar) Mr. Willy Brandt, Chairman of the independent commission on international development issues, acknowledged that there were "suspicions" amongst poor countries that like the Paris Conference, this commission might be utilised by the industrialized nationals to undermine the interests of the developing countries and delay decisions.

Addressing a largely-attended press conference Thursday at the end of his two-day visit to India, Mr. Brandt said that "the commission would be very careful in this regard and we shall strive to guard the interests of the developing world." He clarified that because of such suspicions, "I did not take any initiative before the Paris Conference ended in June this year without taking any decision."

Mr. Brandt said a majority of the Commission members would be from poor countries and that he did not believe in this "artificial balance of 50-50 among the developed and developing nations."

Mr. Brandt disclosed that to make the commission more representative and realistic, "organized contacts" would be made with the Eastern bloc countries through experts for exploring the possibility of their participation in it.

The Commission formally started work at Gymnich near Bonn and first meeting was held on December nine which was attended by the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. L.K. Jha, who is a member of the Commission. The Commission Secretariat would be located in Geneva and the next session would be held from March 1978, he said.

Task Force on Multiculturalism

The Ottawa Board of Education has decided to set up a Task Force on Multiculturalism under the chairmanship of Dr. John Samual. Dr. Samuel has been authorized to select the members of the Task Force from other school boards in the Ottawa area as well as from trustees, teachers, administrators and the community. The Task Force idea was earlier approved by the Special Educational Needs Committee of which Dr. Samuel is the Chairman.

After the Board of Education meeting on December 19th, in interviews with local radio stations, CKOY and CFMO, Dr. Samuel said that he expects to have a report on Multiculturalism in Ottawa schools completed in about nine months.

SAAL MUBARAK!
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Montreal: (514) 871-4357

CLASSIFIEDS

MATRIMONIALS

Matrimonial correspondence invited from ladies between 24-30, preferably professional, for a handsome Arora Sikh bachelor, 5'-7", Ph.D., settled in Canada. Visiting India shortly. Please correspond with full details and photo to M-1348, The Canadian India Times.

Young Mair Rajput Sikh, 23, 5'-8" tall, immigrant and settled in Canada for two years, looking for a suitable good looking and home caring girl. Caste no bar. M-1349, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a Bengalee Kayastha girl, 24, M.A. presently studying Library Science in Calcutta. Highly respected and connected (Basu) family, smart, good looking and singer. Serious enquiries only. M-1350, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from attractive, educated woman for a handsome Hindu Punjabi, Ph.D., 27, 5'-11", well settled. No bars. Reply with photograph (returnable), M-1351, The Canadian India Times.

Hindu boy, 26, accountant wishes to marry a nice and healthy girl. Please reply M-1352, The Canadian India Times.

Very special match for a Punjabi bachelor, 34, who has everything: Good looks, good education, good business and the rest. She should be intelligent, pretty. No other bars. M-1353, The Canadian India Times.

Khatri match for 26 year old, Slim, working girl, M-1354, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a Muslim girl, 31, landed immigrant, well settled Muslim boys may write with full particulars and recent photograph to M-1355, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match, engineer, M.S. or Ph.D. for attractive Jat Sikh M.A. girl, 23. Brother working for Ph.D. in U.S. Well placed landlord family. M-1356, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for beautiful 18 year old girl. Metric sewing diploma. Belongs to very respectable gentle and quite rich family. Write or phone (306) 242-5475. 1633-2nd Ave. N., Saskatoon, Sask.

Suitable match for Punjabi beautiful Walia girl, 21, height 5'-2", fair complexion, college graduate, good family. Visiting sister in Canada. Contact Amrik 763-5316 (Toronto), or Paul 769-4830, Toronto.

HOROSCOPE

Horoscope - casting, palm-reading, meditation, yoga and spiritual-healing - 27 years experience. All problems solved. Lessons available. Call Dev, 766-2626 Toronto.

ASIAN LIAISION COMMITTEE

A meeting was organized by the Secretary of State on Nov. 27 at the Japanese cultural centre in Toronto, to form an Asian group. About 25 people from different national and local groups, representing 10 countries, attended the meeting. All agreed to participate in joint projects such as national unity debate, immigration, Asian culture promotion, human rights etc. Monthly meetings will be held regularly from now.

One of the first groups to respond to the Canadian Red Cross Society's India Cyclone Relief campaign was the Federation of Indo-Canadian Associations of Metro Toronto. Veluvolu Basavaiah, President, Sadanand Mankikar, Coordinator and Rao Chalasani, Special Committee Member, presented Mrs. Evelyn Newman, Chairman of the Metro Toronto Red Cross Association and George Weber, Red Cross National Director of International Affairs with a cheque for $3,083.25 and with a promise of more to come. All donations channelled through the Red Cross go to the Indian Red Cross for relief work and are tax deductible.

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Commonwealth's task outlined

New Delhi, Dec. 28 (Samachar) The External Affairs Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, said that all were agreed that the Commonwealth should not be divided on the racial or the economic axis. "We do not want the commonwealth to be a commonality of poverty."

Speaking at a banquet he held in honour of the visiting Secretary General of the Commonwealth, S.S. Ramphal, Mr. Vajpayee said "We must jointly devise plans and institutions to improve the productivity of member countries whose people, for historic and economic reasons, are not able to give of their best to the community."

Replying Mr. Ramphal said India had helped greatly to fashion the Commonwealth. It was a noble task requiring courage and great vision on the part of many leaders.

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